



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - February 4, 2003

- ***In the West***, beneficial snow showers continue across the ***northern Rockies*** and parts of the ***northern Intermountain region***, but mild, unfavorably dry weather persists elsewhere.
- ***On the Plains***, early-week snowfall provided as much as 3 inches of snow but generally less than one-tenth of an inch of liquid (melted snow) in winter wheat areas from ***Montana southward into eastern Colorado and Kansas***. Cool, mostly dry air is overspreading the ***Plains*** today.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, snow showers linger in the ***lower Great Lakes region***, but cold, dry weather prevails elsewhere. Monday's rain and snow provided a much-needed boost in ***Midwestern*** topsoil moisture levels.
- ***In the South***, showers and thunderstorms are sweeping across the ***Atlantic Coast States***, improving topsoil moisture for pastures, winter grains, and other cold-season crops in ***Florida*** and ***southern Georgia***.

Outlook: Showers and thunderstorms will accompany a cold front crossing the ***Atlantic Coast States***, while snow will diminish in the ***Great Lakes region*** as a winter storm departs the region. Meanwhile, a high-pressure system will provide cool, dry weather to much of the ***central U.S.***, although a weak disturbance may generate some light snow showers in the ***northern Rockies, northern Plains, and upper Midwest***. Elsewhere, showers will return to the ***Gulf Coast States*** by week's end, while dry, windy conditions will prevail in the ***Southwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for February 9-13 calls for below-normal precipitation in the ***Midwest, Northeast, and Pacific Northwest***, while wetter-than-normal weather is forecast for the ***southern one-third of the nation***. Below-normal temperatures are expected nearly nationwide, with warmer-than-normal weather confined to ***Florida*** and the ***Pacific Northwest***.

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